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Pre A
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: KARL HEHL

FOR: MOLD CLOSING UNIT FOR AN INJECTION MOLDING MACHINE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Box Patent Application
The Assistant Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 02031

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Jennifer matson

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Jennifer matson

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Sir:

Prior to the Examiner acting in the above-referenced application, please preliminary amend the claims as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, lines 13-16, please delete "Furthermore, this application also claims the priority of the European patent application 99 118 658.9, filed on September 22, 1999 in the name of the applicant, the disclosure of which is hereby expressly also made the subject matter of the present application."

Please amend the following Abstract:

In a mold-closing unit a device [(clamping device 13)] for variably fixing the spacing [(a)] between the stationary mold carrier [(10)] and moveable mold carrier [(11)] is provided, which device comes into operational connection with a guide element [(12)] to fix a set spacing [(a)]. Associated with the moveable mold carrier [(11)] is a fixing device which, on actuation, fixes the moveable mold carrier [(11)] in its respective position. The drive [(D)] for moving the moveable mold carrier [(11)] itself alters the spacing [(a)] along a portion [(12a)] of the guide element [(12)] when the fixing device [(14)] is actuated and the clamping device [(13)] is not operationally connected. Drive